

Mr. ARENS. What is that additional information?

Mr. LEBED. The information consists of letters from families of those prisoners, political prisoners in concentration camps.

Mr. ARENS. I have in my hand an article in today's, September 10 issue of the New York Times, page 1, by Harrison E. Salisbury, in which Mr. Salisbury states among other things that Mr. Khrushchev is running the Soviet Union without fear, and that the labor camps have been liquidated and the power of the secret police has been reduced.

Based upon your current information from intelligence sources of the underground in the Soviet Union, are these observations which are made public by Mr. Salisbury true and correct?

Mr. LEBED. I can definitely say that based upon current intelligence sources which I have in my possession now from the Soviet Union, Mr. Salisbury's statement is absolutely incorrect. I know that there are political concentration camps operating now in the Soviet Union.

In addition to the confidential sources of information which I presently have, may I again call your attention to one obvious bit of evidence which the world knows; namely, that Metropolitan Slipyi was tried in May of this year, 1959, and sentenced to 7 years of concentration camp labor.

I hold that the statement by Mr. Salisbury that there is no fear of the regime in the Soviet Union amongst the population is simply not true. I would like to add, if you please, that at this very moment there still exist the MVD and KGB and that in June of 1959, this year, there were tried in Ukraine members of the underground movement and they were sentenced to death. It should be obvious to any thinking person that as long as there exists a dictatorship in the Soviet Union, a dictatorship of the Communist Party and Khrushchev, we cannot expect that the peoples of the Soviet Union will be relieved of fear.

Mr. ARENS. Is there freedom of religion in Ukraine today?

Mr. LEBED. There is a so-called freedom of religion, but of a religion which is officially accepted and approved by the regime.

Mr. ARENS. Is that free religion? Are people permitted to worship at churches of their choice?

Mr. LEBED. No; of course it is not freedom of religion because it is absolutely dominated by the regime.

I should like to state that the Ukrainian Orthodox Church was liquidated and is not reinstated today in the Soviet Union. The Ukrainian Catholic Church is liquidated and also does not exist.

Therefore, the Ukrainian people do not have their own churches.

Mr. ARENS. Mr. Lebed, what will be the effect upon the people of Ukraine when they see in the newspapers, pictures of the officialdom of this free Nation welcoming Khrushchev and wining and dining him, including the White House?

Mr. LEBED. I think that the Ukrainian people will probably draw the conclusion that the power of Khrushchev, of his regime and of the Communist Party, is so strong that even the American Government had to invite Khrushchev to come over.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Lebed.



Kiev and was sentenced for an additional seven years to so-called labor camps, which are really concentration camps.

He is now 67 years old, and I have in my hand a picture of him.

I also have in my possession pictures of Ukrainian prisoners who had been murdered by the NKVD during 1941, when Khrushchev was the first secretary of the Communist Party of Ukraine. I was a witness and saw with my own eyes those murdered prisoners. (See p. 54.)

Mr. LEBED. I want to make clear that I have exact information, exact data if you wish, about the eight bishops, of whom seven died in concentration camps and only one, Metropolitan Josef Slipyi, is still alive.

I should like, however, to emphasize that it is quite important that Metropolitan Josef Slipyi, who is still alive, was tried again this year in Kiev and was sentenced again for seven years to hard slave labor.

Khrushchev says that there are no political prisoners in the Soviet Union. This fact alone contradicts his statement.

Mr. ARENS. Based upon your current information from intelligence sources in Ukraine, is Khrushchev operating slave labor camps and concentration camps?

Mr. LEBED. I have precise information with names of inmates. I do not want to mention those names here, but I have names of those who are at this moment, on this very day, still in concentration camps in the Soviet Union.

Mr. ARENS. Could you tell on the record please, sir, the location of some of the concentration camps currently being operated by Khrushchev in the Communist empire?

Mr. LEBED. Yes, I will give you some of the locations. One is in the Taishet area; another one is in the Irkutsk area; and there is the prison in Vladymir near Moscow.

Mr. ARENS. How many priests in addition to these Catholic bishops were destroyed?

Mr. LEBED. I would like to state that until 1945, that is, until the mass arrest of the bishops and priests in Ukraine, there were 4,400 Catholic churches in Ukraine and 127 monasteries. Today there is not one Catholic church in Ukraine.

Mr. ARENS. How do you account for the statements which are currently being made by certain of the distinguished travelers to the Soviet Union that Khrushchev no longer operates slave labor camps in his empire?

Mr. LEBED. I would like to say the following: That when Khrushchev found out that the Western World knew of some concentration camps and their geographical location, he released the inhabitants of those camps that were known by the Western World, as, for example, in Vorkuta and Norylsk.

He changed the status of those prisoners from political prisoners to those who were forcibly resettled and restricted to the respective areas, not to be known directly as political prisoners.

At the same time he transferred some of the political prisoners to such places which until that time were not known to the West as concentration camps or forced labor camps.

Mr. ARENS. Do you have additional current information that there are political slave labor camps in the Soviet Union?

Mr. LEBED. Yes; I do.



Mr. LEBED. In the districts of Tarnopil, Stanislaviv, Drohobych, Czernivci, Rivne, Zhytomir, and Kaminec-Podilsk, all in Ukraine.

These methods of terror were applied not only to prisoners in interrogation rooms and cells, but also in public places, forcing people to get together to witness these atrocities.

At the same time a degree of bacteriological warfare was started. They poisoned medical capsules with certain injections of typhus. In certain areas sicknesses or illnesses were spread, and in order to cope with them there was a need for certain medical supplies and help.

So they poisoned medical capsules or medicines which were supposed to be used to cure a patient. In that way, instead of curing him they inflicted certain other diseases which became very widely spread after the injections.

Also, water for public use was poisoned. Cigarettes and chocolates were tampered with in this manner. After consuming them, people became sick.

Mr. ARENS. What appeared to be the objective of the Communists in perpetrating these barbarities?

Mr. LEBED. These methods were applied in order to terrorize the population of Ukraine and depress its will to resist the regime.

Mr. ARENS. Who was directing the perpetration of these barbarities in Ukraine?

Mr. LEBED. Khrushchev was the man, since he was the "Gauleiter" at that time in Ukraine.

He was the first secretary of the Central Committee of Ukraine's Communist Party and the chairman of the council of ministers at that time.

This action was also directly led by Lieutenant General Riasnyv, at that time chief of the NKVD in Ukraine who was subordinate to Khrushchev.

I can continue to explain Khrushchev's methods and those of his subordinates in 1947 and 1948 in Ukraine, if you wish.

Mr. ARENS. After the conclusion of the war did the attack continue under Khrushchev and his cohorts against the Ukrainian liberation forces?

Mr. LEBED. Yes. It was not only continued, but also the most terrifying methods were applied after the war. This was not only against the members of the Ukrainian partisan movement but also against the Ukrainian population, especially in those regions where the Ukrainian Insurgent Army was very active.

Here is a photo taken by the UPA of a pharmacist and sanitarian in the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) who were captured, tortured, and murdered by the Reds in 1947. (See p. 52.)

Mr. ARENS. Do you have information respecting the activities of Khrushchev in connection with the genocide of the Catholic Church in Ukraine?

Mr. LEBED. Yes; I do.

On April 11, 1945, 600 members of the NKVD surrounded the palace of Metropolitan Josef Slipyi and arrested on the same day all bishops of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Out of eight bishops, today there is alive only Metropolitan Josef Slipyi; all the others died.

Metropolitan Josef Slipyi was sentenced in 1945 to eight years in prison, and in April-May of this year, 1959, he was tried again in

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Mr. LEBED. In a way, to this day. Beginning in 1927, and until this very hour, I have devoted my life to the Ukrainian underground movement in an attempt to free Ukraine from foreign domination.

From 1941 until 1943 I was a leader of the Ukrainian liberation movement in Ukraine and led the movement against the German Hitlerite occupation.

In 1944 the Supreme Ukrainian Liberation Council sent me abroad in order to inform the Western World about the liberation movement of the Ukrainian people and its organized underground forces, especially UPA, which was the Ukrainian Insurgent Army.

To get support for this liberation movement, in October, 1949, I came to the United States of America and from then on have lived in New York City.

Mr. ARENS. During World War II did you live in Ukraine and participate in the Ukrainian underground?

Mr. LEBED. I did.

Mr. ARENS. Under whose domination was Ukraine during World War II?

Mr. LEBED. To a large extent German, but officially, Khrushchev remained the first secretary of the Ukrainian Republic and was one of the leaders of the Soviet partisan movement in occupied Ukraine.

Mr. ARENS. What was the Soviet partisan movement in Ukraine?

Mr. LEBED. It was an organized partisan movement which operated in the rear of the German army in order to help the Soviet forces.

It consisted mostly of members of the NKVD, and its objective was not so much to fight the German army as to provoke persecutions by the Germans directed against the Ukrainian population.

With that purpose they infiltrated the nationalist Ukrainian partisan movement. One of the leaders of the Soviet partisan movement, Dimitri N. Medvedev, in his book "Strong in Spirit," which was published in Moscow in 1951, confirms the statement which I just made.

Mr. ARENS. Would you kindly continue with your exposition of the role of Khrushchev in Ukraine during World War II?

Mr. LEBED. After his return in 1944 to Ukraine, Khrushchev and his subordinates started the mass deportation of the Ukrainian population which previously was under German occupation. Especially the persecutions against the members of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army were begun.

When he could not liquidate from the very beginning the Ukrainian liberation movement and the UPA, the Ukrainian Insurgent Army, the Ukrainian population at large was very severely persecuted and, on many occasions, parts of it were murdered.

I should like, specially, to illustrate the methods of terror which were applied at that time. To those members of the Ukrainian resistance movement who were caught, as well as their families, the NKVD and NKGB applied the following measures of terror:

With hot irons they tortured those prisoners who were caught.

They cut into the skin and tore the skin off from the living body.

They also nailed people on the cross.

They cut off the sexual organs, and breasts of women.

They cut out eyes, broke bones in legs and arms and extracted nails.

Mr. ARENS. Specifically, in what areas were these atrocities committed, to your certain knowledge?

THE CRIMES OF KHRUSHCHEV

Part 2

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1959

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D.C.

CONSULTATIONS

The following consultation with Mykola Lebed and Dr. Gregory Kostiuk, respectively, was held at 1:30 p.m., in room 226, Old House Office Building, Washington, D.C., Hon. Francis E. Walter of Pennsylvania, Chairman of the Committee on Un-American Activities, presiding.

Staff members present: Richard Arens, staff director; George C. Williams, investigator.

Also present: Constantine Warvariv, employee of the Library of Congress, special interpreter.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order and the two witnesses and interpreter be sworn.

Do you, Mr. Lebed and Dr. Kostiuk, and Mr. Warvariv solemnly swear that the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. LEBED. I do.

Dr. KOSTIUK. I do.

Mr. WARVARIV. I do.

The CHAIRMAN. Proceed, Mr. Arens.

TESTIMONY

STATEMENT OF MYKOLA LEBED (INTERPRETER, CONSTANTINE WARVARIV)

Mr. ARENS. Please identify yourself, Mr. Lebed, by name, residence, and occupation.

Mr. LEBED. My name is Mykola Lebed. I live at 353 Fort Washington Avenue, New York City. I am a member of the Supreme Ukrainian Liberation Council, and its general secretary of foreign affairs.

I am also now the president of Prolog, a research and publishing association in New York.

Mr. ARENS. Are you a citizen of the United States?

Mr. LEBED. I am a citizen.

Mr. ARENS. Give us if you please, sir, a brief sketch of your personal background.

Mr. LEBED. From 1927 I was a member of the Ukrainian underground movement.

Mr. ARENS. From 1927 until when?